

Facts about Social Networking:

- o 96% of students ages 9 to 17 who have access to the Internet have used social networking technologies (Grunwald Associates, "Creating & Connecting - Research and Guidelines on Online Social and Educational Networking," July 2007).
- o 71% of students ages 9 to 17 use social networking sites on a weekly basis (Grunwald Associates, "Creating & Connecting - Research and Guidelines on Online Social and Educational Networking," July 2007).
- o 20% of youth include swear words in their MySpace profiles and 33% of MySpace pages have swear words in the comments sections (Hinduja, S. and Patchin, J.W. "Personal Information of Adolescents on the Internet: a Quantitative analysis of MySpace.com." Journal of Adolescence, 2007).
- o 18% of youth MySpace pages contain evidence of consumption of alcohol by minors, 8% reference underage smoking, and 2% refer to marijuana usage (Hinduja, S. and Patchin, J.W. "Personal Information of Adolescents on the Internet: a Quantitative analysis of MySpace.com." Journal of Adolescence, 2007).
- o 64% of teens post photos or videos of themselves online, while more than half (58%) post info about where they live. Females are far more likely than male teens to post personal photos or videos of themselves (70% vs. 58%) (Teen Research Unlimited. "Cox Communications Teen Internet safety Survey Wave II," March 2007).
- o Nearly one in 10 teens (8%) has posted his or her cell phone number online (Teen Research Unlimited. "Cox Communications Teen Internet safety Survey Wave II," March 2007).
- o 58% of teens don't think posting photos or other personal info on social networking sites is unsafe (Teen Research Unlimited. "Cox Communications Teen Internet safety Survey Wave II," March 2007).
- o Nearly half of teens (47%) aren't worried about others using their personal info in ways they don't want (Teen Research Unlimited. "Cox Communications Teen Internet safety Survey Wave II," March 2007).
- o About half (49%) are unconcerned that posting personal info online might negatively affect their future (Teen Research Unlimited. "Cox Communications Teen Internet safety Survey Wave II," March 2007).
- o 32% of all teens and 43% of teens active in social networking have been contacted online by a complete stranger (Lenhart, Amanda and Maddox, Mary. "Teens, Privacy, and Online Social Networks - How Teens Manage their Online Identities and Personal Information in the Age of MySpace." April 18, 2007).
- o Boys are more likely to post personal information than are girls (Lenhart, Amanda and Maddox, Mary. "Teens, Privacy, and Online Social Networks - How Teens Manage their Online Identities and Personal Information in the Age of MySpace." April 18, 2007).
- o Among teens active in social networking sites, 61% post the name of their city or town, 49% post their school's name, 29% post their email address, and 29% post their last name (Lenhart, Amanda and Maddox, Mary. "Teens, Privacy, and Online Social Networks - How Teens Manage their Online Identities and Personal Information in the Age of MySpace." April 18, 2007).